

ON GOUT

AND

RHEUMATISM

A THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL
EXPOSITION

OF

A CURATIVE AND PREVENTIVE TREATMENT

BY

DOCTOR LAVILLE

OF THE FACULTY OF PARIS.

Tenth edition.

PARIS

PRINTED BY CHARLES NOBLET

18, SOUFFLOT STREET.

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION

1892

1892

1892

1892

1892

1892

1892

1892

R33058

INDEX.

	Page.
INTRODUCTION.	44
Analysis of our medicines.	
A certain cure to be expected, without de- ranging drugs.	
ORIGIN AND OBJECT OF OUR RESEARCHES. . .	45
Arthritic diseases specially studied.	
DISTRUST OF GOUTY PEOPLE, VERY NATURAL. .	46
Indeed one should fear any dangerous remedy.	
The gouty diathesis must be changed.	
WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF GOUT?	22
From defective or altered secretion, whether cutaneous, urinary, or intestinal.	
HOW CAN GOUT BE CURED, NOT ONLY WITH- OUT DANGER, BUT WITH BENEFIT TO THE HEALTH?	22
By a course of medicine which will give to the three great emunctories of the body the ne- cessary <i>quantity</i> and <i>quality</i> .	

ACUTE AND CHRONIC FORMS.	24
Treatment for the acute not applicable to the chronic state.	
MANNER OF USING THE LIQUID	31
1. When the pain is violent.	
2. When the pain is moderate.	
3. When the pain is slight.	
4. When the pain is threatening.	
HOW TO CHECK TOO ABUNDANT EVACUATIONS.	38
OF THE DIET DURING THE ATTACKS.. . . .	39
IMPORTANT REMARK ON THE FLAVOUR OF THE LIQUID.	41
HOW TO PROCEED IN CHRONIC GOUT OR RHEUMATISM OR IN THE INTERVALS BETWEEN ATTACKS	42
DOSE OF THE PILLS.. . . .	43
HOW TO TAKE THE PILLS.	48
OBJECTIONS TO THE NUMBER OF PILLS AND LENGTH OF TIME.	49
A constitutional malady necessitates a certain amount of time for its cure.	
MAXIMUM OF THE PILLS.	51
It is well to give the constitution time to alter itself.	

CAN A CERTAIN TIME BE FIXED FOR THE USE OF THE PILLS ?	54
---	----

No. That depends on the degree of gout and
on the peculiarities of the constitution.

ACTION OF THE PILLS.	56
------------------------------	----

The most delicate stomach not inconvenienced :
they are perfectly harmless, though effica-
cious.

ON RHEUMATISM	57
-------------------------	----

The anti-gout treatment perfectly applicable.

REGIMEN FOR THE GOUTY	59
---------------------------------	----

Mind and body must both be regulated.

RÉSUMÉ : ADVANTAGES OF THE LIQUID. . .	61
--	----

Not necessarily confined to bed.

RÉSUMÉ : ADVANTAGES OF THE PILLS. . .	63
---------------------------------------	----

No more attacks to be dreaded and the nodes
will gradually disappear.

IN THERAPEUTICS , WE CAN RELY ON FACTS ONLY.	64
---	----

Theories are vain unless sanctioned by expe-
rience.

PRECAUTIONS THAT THE LIQUID AND PILLS SHALL BE ALWAYS ALIKE.	65
---	----

We were obliged to select a pharmacy which

offered all necessary guarantees for the correct execution of our prescriptions.

IDEA OF SUBMITTING THEM TO THE ACADEMY. 68

There would have been no question on the subject, but for want of time.

OBJECTIONS OF SOME OF THE GOUTY. . . . 74

Does gout give a lease of life?

Is it a preventive of other maladies, etc.?

Is a retrocession to be feared, etc.?

OBJECTIONS OF CERTAIN PHYSICIANS. . . . 76

Is not the subject of gout exhausted?

Opinion of Sydenham, the English Hippocrates.

RAPID VIEW OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF NEGLECTED GOUT AND RHEUMATISM. . . . 85

The local disease is nothing; the heart fatally injured. Opinions of the aristocracy of science.

Our treatment fills up a lamentable void.

RÉSUMÉ.. . . . 95

PRESCRIPTIONS FOR GOUT 96

Our medicines have never been secret.

Mixture of a preparation of Bark-Colocynth
« Kino-colocynthine » in acute gout:

PRESCRIPTION FOR THE ANTI-GOUT PILLS. . . .	100
---	-----

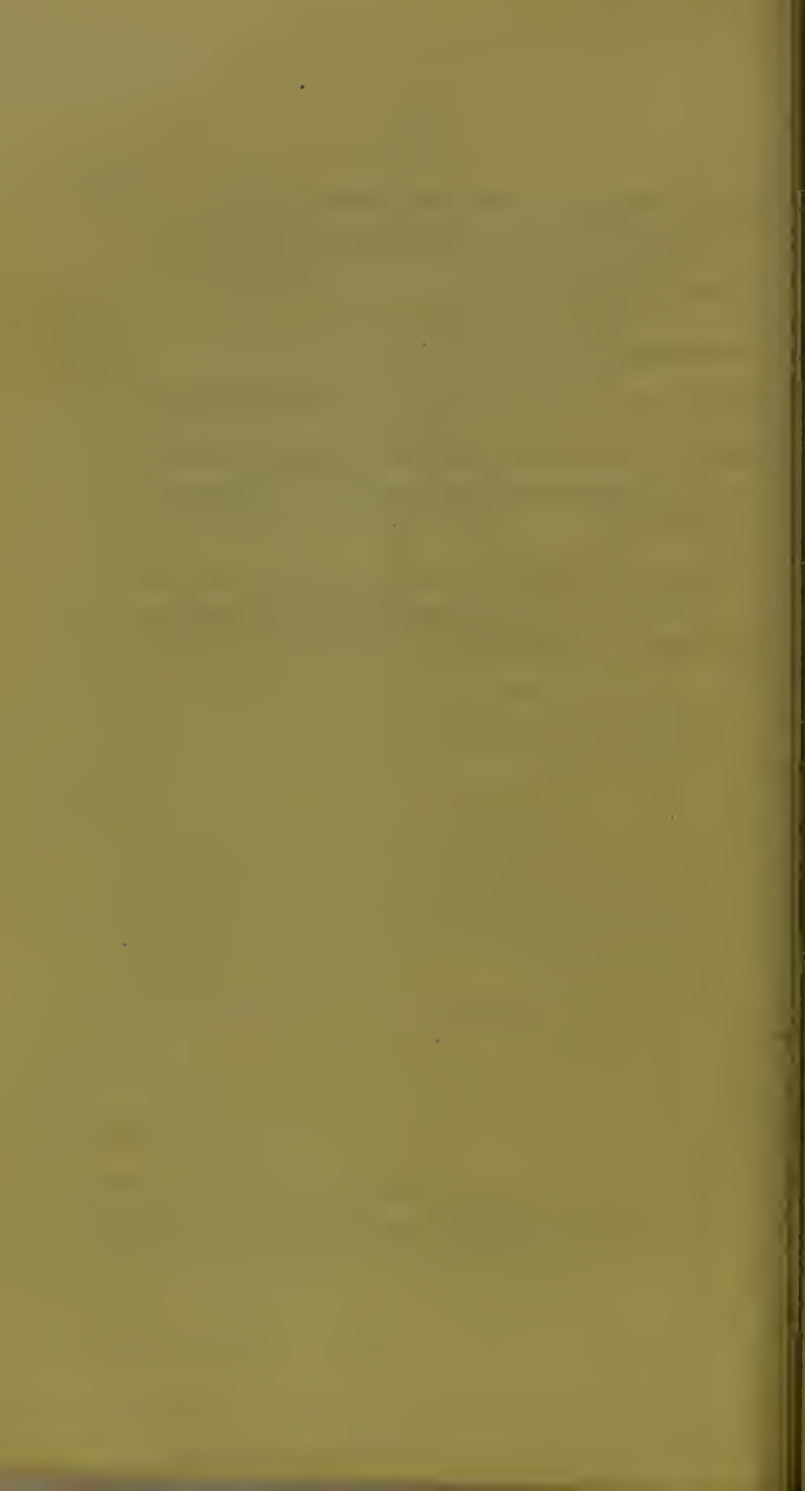
Silicated alkékengine producing excellent result in chronic gout.

PHARMACY OFFERING EVERY SECURITY. . . .	104
---	-----

EXPLANATORY AND CONGRATULATORY LETTERS.	105
---	-----

TEXTUAL REPORT OF M. OSSIAN HENRY, MEMBER AND CHIEF CHEMIST OF THE ACADEMY OF MEDICINE.	117
---	-----

The anti-gout liquid perfectly attains the desired end. The pills are deobstruent, depurative and incapable of injuring the health.



INTRODUCTION.

The publication of our formulas at the end of this little Treatise, imposed on us a duty : viz, to submit them, with our medicines, to the authority of a person to whom no scientific man can object.

As the Academy of medicine could not be consulted on a medicine long since become public, we requested one of its most honoured members, and certainly the most competent on the subject, to analyse our anti-gout preparations. M. Ossian Henry, chief chemist of the imperial Academy of medi-

cine of Paris, closes an analysis equally profound and conscientious, by these remarkable words :

« The anti-gout liquid of Dr Laville, according to its analysis, is composed of substances
« febrifuge, antiperiodic, diuretic and purgative.
« *It is a happy combination for effecting the
« desired end.* »

As respects the pills, the report concludes thus :

« This compound may be considered deob-
« struent, softening and purifying; besides
« which it contains nothing prejudicial to the
« health. »

This high appreciation of the learned chemist whose name is a sufficient guarantee and security, is the best recompense our exertions could receive.

Besides, we recommend to the reader's most serious attention, the decisive and peremptory testimonials of the

most honourable members of English society (1).

Our treatment is not only intended to cut short the attacks of gout, but to prevent their return; and while it restores motion to the joints by removing the concretions, it tends also and above all to liberate the heart by carrying off the chalky deposits which line its walls and perforate its valves (2).

The progressive disappearance of the traces of the gout is the true touchstone for the appreciation of an anti-gout remedy. This peculiar result, obtained without *any deranging medicines*, sufficiently proves that here it is not simply a question of that temporary relief from the attacks, dignified

(1) See p. 405 and following.

(2) See the paragraph : *Rapid view of the consequences of neglected gout and rheumatism.*

by certain authors with the grand title of « *cure of the gout*, » but that the important point to be desired, is a certain, durable cure completely exempt from danger.

Let us be heard, before we are judged.

We have only one wish, which is *to be really useful*: we shall therefore restrict as much as possible the extent of this Treatise, without omitting any thing essential.

ON GOUT

AND

RHEUMATISM

Origin and object of our researches.

At the commencement of our medical career, therapeutical resources were confined almost entirely to bleeding and gum water. The science evidently, could not be exhausted. Deterred neither by difficulties nor labour, we devoted ourselves to the study of cancer, epilepsy and gout. By determined

and zealous efforts we hoped that one day these diseases would no longer be regarded as incurable. In the midst of our investigations, many cases of gout were brought under our care. From that time we studied specially arthritic affections, and now at the request of many influential persons we publish briefly the result of our labours.

Gouty persons naturally suspicious.

The gouty, generally, are suspicious of remedies, and it must be admitted, their suspicions are too well founded. For with all who are not merely living from day to day, the point is not so much to cut short an attack of gout as to ascertain whether the means employed are not like the most celebrated remedies, sooner or later dangerous. It is well to ask oneself whether at-

attacks cut short one after another do not augment rather than diminish the danger; whether it would not be like stopping the course of a river, whose confined waters break through and produce the greatest ravages.

Is it not, indeed, extremely common to meet persons who complain that the suppression of the attacks provoke their more speedy return? If, then, it is proper to cut short an attack, it can only be on the condition, that, later, one will not regret it, and will not, by shorter intervals and more intense sufferings pay the penalty of momentary ease.

For it must not be forgotten that it is the gouty constitution which must be modified and not merely some of its symptoms or manifestations : therefore to produce this it becomes necessary to form a correct idea of the gout,

and to determine whether it could be successfully combated.

To resolve these questions, I first of all consulted the best works, ancient and modern, from Hippocrates to Sydenham and Scudamore; but, while rendering homage to their more or less ingenious views, I found nowhere a clear, precise definition, and even in the clearest there is not one whose theories are sanctioned by practise. This is the case doubtless, because in some cases the means of investigation were not far enough advanced, in others because chemistry was not consulted in questions in which it was principally concerned.

I have therefore been obliged to study the gouty diathesis in gouty patients, and thus have been enabled to put my labours to the test of experience. I will spare the reader a dry and

tedious narrative of means, in order to arrive more speedily at the result.

On carefully interrogating the gouty, reflecting on their previous history, and neglecting no corroborative information, I found that the first attacks of gout have always invariably been preceded by *suppressed perspiration*, *difficult micturition*, or *irritated bowels*. These indispensable observations were still insufficient to solve the problem : it was necessary to follow in the footsteps of Berthollet and elucidate the successive changes and differences of chemical composition of the urine, the perspiration, and the bile. It was also necessary to take into consideration the waste of seminal fluid too frequent among men of pleasure, who forget the consequences.

The synovial serous membranes, which cover the articulations, also en-

gaged our particular attention. Considering the importance of these tissues, which secrete the synovial fluid, it is much to be regretted that the study of them has been so completely neglected.

Can one imagine, that in a disease attacking especially the joints, the synovia destined to lubricate the articulations, to perpetuate and facilitate their movements, should scarcely have been noticed?

Were this soft, unctuous fluid resembling white of egg to become acid, the end of the bones would soon become corroded. Should it become watery and thin, the articulation lacks support and shocks are no longer deadened. Besides this, the nodosities are certainly owing, in our opinion, to a thickening of the synovia on the external surface of the articular serous capsules. This exhalation

of the serous membranes by their adhering surfaces, this kind of exosmosis, is a pathological accident, the mechanism of which it was necessary to scrutinize, and it would be impossible to conceive the amount of patience, time, and trouble it required to arrive at conclusive facts, and to deduce practical results from them.

All these phenomena, to which I allude, not wishing here, to follow them out scientifically, should be examined separately, and above all, in connexion with each other.

I submitted to frequent and rigorous analyses the different secretions of gouty patients before, during and after the attacks. These experimental researches afford us the means of replying to the question :

What is the cause of gout?

It proceeds from a deficiency of, or an alteration in, the cutaneous, urinary, or intestinal secretion.

This definition leads us to the solution of a second and not less important question :

How to cure the gout, not only without danger, but with benefit to the health?

By a plan of treatment capable of re-establishing the perspiration if suppressed, of inducing a proper flow of urine, and of destroying the obstinate constipation, when it exists. But it is not sufficient that these three functions act properly as respects *quantity*, above and before all, their *quality* must have our attention.

Indeed, we have mentioned not only a *deficiency*, but also an *alteration* of secretion. For the perspiration, the urine, and the evacuations, should be not only sufficiently abundant, but should carry off certain principles whose stay would produce the most serious disorders.

This is precisely what we see in the gout. Does it not often happen that after an attack the articulations become deformed by chalky concretions?

Does not nature thereby teach us how to apply the remedy?

These gouty deposits have been analysed by the chemists Wollaston, Fourcroy, Vauquelin, Barruel.

Every one now knows their composition.

There remained then to find a means of preventing these salts spreading and as it were, condensing themselves

throughout the economy. The medicines, of which we shall presently speak will produce this desirable result, since they will give to the products of the three great emunctories of the body, the *quantity* and *quality* necessary.

Acute and chronic condition.

Here arises a question of the highest importance which dominates all anti-gout therapeutics.

Is the treatment of the acute, applicable to the chronic stage?

Certain superficial trials may, at first, have left this in doubt; but a long course of experiments has proved to demonstration that one and the same remedy is not applicable to two conditions so different.

In fact, all the anti-gout remedies,

hitherto so vaunted, have only succeeded in alleviating the attacks.

That, to be sure, is something, but it ought not to be exaggerated : their action rests there ; and if it be incorrect to affirm, that the attacks become more and more frequent in proportion, as they are cut short, it is not less incorrect to assert that their return is delayed by diminishing their violence. This would be to trust to hasty or indefinite experiments. Besides, in a question so complex, requiring long and multiplied researches, error may easily slip, if one is not constantly on the guard.

All the gouty, especially those who have suffered for some years, will admit, that up to the present time, while the attacks may have been relieved, the gout itself has never progressed towards a cure. This is a point only too

well established, notwithstanding the opposite, and not entirely disinterested assertions, to the contrary.

It became necessary then to find substances capable not only of arresting the development of the gout, but also, if possible, of destroying the germ. This was only possible, by carefully separating what had hitherto always been confounded : acute and chronic gout.

In fact, in acute gout, the pain being intolerable, the remedy should be equally prompt as efficacious : otherwise, to say nothing of the unimaginable sufferings of the patient, the articulations successively or simultaneously affected by the gout, become deformed or anchylosed.

It is then important to prevent as quickly as possible such disorders ; and it is this, which the liquid we shall

mention by and by most happily effects.

But, in chronic gout, we should be strangely deceived if we employed the same remedy. For the object here is not to extinguish the flames, but to render the house incombustible.

Chronic gout is often acquired but is more frequently hereditary : so that it is the entire system which must be purified : in this case violent remedies must be excluded ; otherwise the constitution would rebel, we should be foiled in our object, and the health would be seriously impaired.

Gout having been engendered insensibly during a certain lapse of time, time is necessary for its removal.

Its elimination must take place, one may say, atom by atom ; it is therefore, not surprising that patience should be required for a complete cure. We must

be careful not to confound the acute with the chronic condition : if the latter requires months, in the former, a few hours only are required to effect a cure.

For a special condition, a special remedy. For an acute disease, a remedy active and sure; but in a chronic, inveterate, constitutional disease, a second nature as it were, too active treatment would be really incendiary.

We should, to a certain extent, retrace the footsteps of the malady : insensibly the economy was invaded, by insensible degrees it must be purified. The enemy advanced cautiously and was only noticed when he had gained the position; he must be forced back step by step till the lost ground is recovered. The medicine should act much in the same manner; and such is the action of our anti-gout pills, mild

and inoffensive, while as certainly efficacious.

Those only who have no idea of the nature of the gout, or who have never been handled by this terrible affection, would reproach us for our wise delay and prudent temporizing; the gouty will perceive only a motive of complete security.

It cannot be repeated too often, that when the object is to extensively modify a constitution, to correct its nature, to substitute normal for abnormal products, to eliminate from the economy salts which harass all its functions and check the regular action of its organs, in fine, to effect such an entire change, without incurring any risk, or exposing it to any danger, perseverance is necessary, and he who is sufficiently convinced of the difficulty of the enterprise and the magnitude of the resu

will spare neither days nor months.

On the other hand it would be unreasonable to demand a long trial of patience without giving some guarantee or offering some proof that confidence will not be abused ; for we are treating of a serious matter, and one entirely of honour and conscientiousness.

Consequently letters from the most able judges will be found at the end of this Notice and we are persuaded that such witnesses, having personally experienced the good effects of our treatment, will convince the most unbelieving.

To sum up the matter, *the liquid* is for the *acute*, and *the pills* intended for *the chronic* condition.

This distinction, however is not so absolute, but that a few spoonful of the liquid may be taken, for example, every month to induce an evacuation ;

on the other hand it is not always necessary to wait till all traces of the acute stage have disappeared before using the pills. We simply wish to lay down a general rule.

We will give, first of all, directions for taking the liquid, and then speak of the pills.

Mode of employing the liquid.

1. WHEN THE PAIN IS VIOLENT.

When the suffering is acute, a tea-spoonful of the liquid should be taken, either by itself, or what is better, in about half a glass of sugared water, in a cup of tea, or any infusion, in wine and water, syrup, etc., either warm or cold. The dose is to be repeated in 6 or 7 hours, if the pain be not relieved, or the bowels not moved; and again after

the same interval, under similar conditions.

Twenty-four hours must now be permitted to elapse before recommencing the doses ; for the medicine, while quickly relieving the pain and arresting the attack, requires sometimes two days before it causes any evacuations ; time must therefore be given it to act, by not repeating the doses too quickly.

Certain constitutions are so susceptible that a single teaspoonful will produce a sufficient effect, but these exceptions are rare.

At all events, never, even in the most acute attacks, when no evacuation is produced, should more than three teaspoonsful be taken in 24 hours, and the effect should be awaited at least during one day.

After this interval, should the ame-

Alleviation proceed too slowly, and there be no evacuations, a teaspoonful of the liquid must be taken, and repeated in 8 or 9 hours if the patient be not much relieved.

To maintain and increase the benefit derived, the liquid should be continued for a few days, but in moderate doses : a small teaspoonful in the morning, and another perhaps in the evening, if in decided pain ; but very often a half or quarter teaspoonful is sufficient for one day.

Thus only two cautions must be observed : if the bowels are active, the medicine must be suspended ; if the pain is relieved, it must be taken in smaller doses. If the bowels are too active, they must be checked by starch enemata, or other simple means, as we shall direct hereafter. If the attack be relieved without action of the bowels,

it is of no consequence : it is better however that they should act, because relief is almost certain to follow shortly; but if the amelioration has shown itself, it is not worth troubling about.

We have succeeded in curing some violent attacks without any action of the bowels; the excess of the gout and rheumatic principle having passed off by the perspiration and urine.

Besides, it is the province of the physician to increase or diminish the frequency or quantity of the doses, as the symptoms indicate.

The full dose of the liquid should be taken at least two hours before, or four hours, after a meal : the half dose may be taken one hour before or two hours after.

The usual drinks permitted to the sick to relieve thirst may be taken at

any time without reference to the medicine.

2. WHEN THE PAIN IS MODERATE.

If the pain be not, or be no longer violent, one teaspoonful in the morning, for example, is often sufficient; if however, it be no better in the evening a second dose must be taken. In fine, in proportion as the pain is relieved, the dose must be diminished. Only a portion of a teaspoonful should be taken if that be sufficient to soothe, and it must be suspended so soon as the bowels become active, which is not necessary, as we have before remarked.

The small doses should be continued until the pain has entirely left. Of course, it is impossible to fix before hand the number of days : that depends on

the patient and especially on the degree of gout or rheumatism. Should the patient have waited until the articulations were enormously swollen, it will evidently require a longer time to induce resolution. If the attack has been one of those which usually last 3 or 4 months, the patient ought not to be surprised if he has to be careful for a few days. If, after having left, the gout or rheumatism threatens to return, do not hesitate to take the liquid : for it would be a serious error to trust to a false security and to believe that the enemy would never return.

Far from us be the absurd pretence of *at once* effecting a permanent cure ! Gout and rheumatism resemble the hydra of which it was not enough to cut off a single head. Often, the gout leaves its peculiar seat, the articulations, to

attack a more important organ : this is called inward gout. In this case recourse must be had to the liquid to prevent the accession of symptoms which might be dangerous.

3. WHEN THE PAIN IS SLIGHT.

A very small teaspoonful of the liquid repeated the following day, and perhaps the day after, is amply sufficient to dispel any slight pain. In any case, after having taken, in 3 days, 3 teaspoonfuls, the patient must wait at least one day, before recommencing, should the spot still be painful, which is unlikely.

4. WHEN THE PAIN THREATENS.

If, on the first threatening of the pain

after an excess whether of the table, of pleasure, of fatigue, or of occupation; if, in fine, after any of those preliminary sensations which rarely deceive the gouty, recourse be had to the liquid, *the threatened attack will be at once stopped*. A small dose, before the attack commences, is much more effectual than a large one taken later. One teaspoonful of the liquid, taken even when not required, cannot possibly hurt a gouty person, and it may spare him a long attack. It is a principle never to allow gout time to establish itself. In truth, is not prevention better than cure?

**How to stop too profuse evacua-
tions.**

A purgative effect being unnecessary for the cure, may be always stopped or

prevented by any astringent or opiate, at any time during the administration of the liquid, the action of which will not be less effectual.

Thus when diarrhœa prevents the use of the liquid, although it is indispensable to relieve the pain, it may be checked by an opiate in any form.

When it is judged that the bowels have acted sufficiently, from whatever cause, a few simple starch enemata should be given to which may be added if necessary a few drops of laudanum, which will at once check them.

Of the diet during the attacks.

As the liquid is only to be taken 2 hours before or 4 hours after a meal, it is evident that, if it should be necessary in order to relieve the pain, to take

3 or 4 doses in the 24 hours, no time would be found for a repast. Besides, in acute gout, abstinence is necessary during the first and often the second day. In a word, whenever there is acute pain, even when quiet, and especially if fever be present, abstinence is necessary. But when ease is restored, and it is necessary to take only one or two teaspoonsful a day, to confirm and increase the benefit obtained, then a teaspoonful may be taken in the morning, 2 hours before breakfast, and another if required, in the evening, 4 hours after dinner. A meal may be replaced by a teaspoonful of the liquid, should the pain require it.

During the whole of the attack, the diet must be very moderate : indeed, the liquor which causes a want of appetite, thus assists the treatment.

**Important remark on the flavour
of the liquid.**

The taste of the liquid, though agreeable to most patients, is rather unpleasant to others. To obviate this, it may be taken in divided doses by half or quarter teaspoonful or even less.

One patient, I know, puts a few drops sometimes into soda water, or tea, or orange flower water, etc. The best means of disguising the flavour is by taking it in weak coffee or wine and water or lemon juice as preferred. It may also be taken in capsules. Of course it must then be repeated more frequently if a sufficient quantity is not taken at a time.

It is well to recollect that it may also be taken in an enema with equal effect.

The rectum must first be emptied by an ordinary enema; then a teaspoonful be added to a small enema (1[4 pint) of linseed or gruel, which must be retained as long as possible. This is to be repeated more or less frequently according to the effect: and if it cannot be retained sufficiently long to produce an effect, a few drops of laudanum may be added to soothe the bowel. The same intervals must elapse between meals, as already directed.

So that these who during the attacks suffer from sickness may use it in this form.

Treatment for chronic gout and rheumatism or for the intervals of attacks.

After having suffered one attack, usually many others may be expected. If it

is wished to escape these endless returns and at the same time to repair or diminish the traces of past attacks and insure future exemption, recourse must be had to the pills in the manner I am about to direct.

Number of pills to be taken in chronic gout or rheumatism, or during the intervals.

Principal cases which may occur.

1. In a case of simple gout or rheumatism, without nodes, stiffness of the joints, or permanent pain, but in which the attacks, though mild, occur once or twice a year, it will suffice in order to prevent their return to take 3 or 4 pills a day, till the usual period of 2 or 3 attacks shall have passed.

In still slighter cases, 1, 2 or 3 pills a day for the same length of time will suffice.

2. If the attacks be frequent, long and violent, 5 or 6 pills a day should be taken at first, and after a little time a few more may be added gradually if necessary, in order completely to master the symptoms.

If, however, an attack should come on suddenly, the use of the pills should be exchanged for that of liquid, and the acute stage having passed, the pills should be again taken, to prevent a relapse.

After the attacks have entirely ceased the pills should be taken some little time longer, in order not to withdraw, suddenly from the system, so salutary a medicine.

At those times when the attacks have usually appeared, it is well to recur to

the pills for a time more or less extended according to the frequency or violence of the former ones.

3. If besides these more or less regular attacks, there should be any swelling or deformity of the joints stiffened by abundant concretions, 4 or 5 pills should be taken in the morning and repeated at night.

After a little time, if it appears necessary to hasten the progress of the cure, the dose may gradually be increased, when the improvement will not be long in showing itself.

By continuing for a time longer or shorter according to the progress desired or obtained, not only may future attacks be prevented, but movement may be restored to the articulations.

So long as any nodes remain to be effaced, the pills should be taken for a time proportioned to the number, the

size, or the age of these monuments which the gout has left behind.

4. It would be impossible to enumerate here all the varieties of chronic gout and rheumatism : there are shades of difference which cannot be described: but no difficulty can arise in any case, since, under all circumstances, three or four pills may be taken at first, and the number may be progressively increased, if the improvement should be too slow.

Some are mixed cases, that is to say acute and chronic at the same time. To-day, the pain is violent, to-morrow it will disappear to return shortly, and during all these alternations, the joints remain stiffened.

To relieve this condition, both medicines must be used together : that is to say, must be used *alternately* according to the state of the attack, when

acute, take the liquid, when pain has ceased, the pills.

And, if the cure should progress too slowly, a portion of a teaspoonful of the liquid may be taken every other day, without omitting the pills.

The persistent irritation being thus directly combated by the liquid, will no longer embarrass the efficacy of the pills.

Those who have been long subject to gout and rheumatism will do well to take every month, or at least every two months, for some days, a few teaspoonsful of the liquid to produce a preventive evacuation. During this time they will discontinue the use of the pills to resume them later.

We have not separated the treatment of gout from that of rheumatism, because we have found by repeated experiments, the same plan equally effi-

cacious in either or in both combined.

Manner of taking the pills.

The pills, being silvered, are easily swallowed, they may be taken in jam, or with a little sugar and water. They may be taken between, or what is better, at the beginning of meals, whether breakfast or dinner, for these pills, essentially alterative, partake almost as much of the nature of food as of medicine, and neither nausea, vomiting, indigestion nor diarrhœa need be feared : in fine the system is not in any way deranged.

They may be taken once, twice, or three times a day.

Those who cannot take pills, may beat them up so as to suspend them in a small enema.

(Objections to the number of pills and length of time.

Those who object to the number of pills and to the length of time during which they must be taken, have only the state of their system to blame.

The doses must evidently be graduated according to the progress of the disease. The minimum and maximum both of time and pills have been apportioned to all cases, from the slightest to the most serious.

This wise maxim should never be forgotten :

*Principiis obsta, sero medicina paratur
Cum mala per longas invaluere moras.*

Again, would it not be unreasonable to expect that a disease eminently

constitutional, and often hereditary, should be radically cured in a few months?

As to the number of pills, is it not a guarantee of their complete innocence?

In truth, they are powerful purifiers of the economy without in the least deranging the constitution; they impose no privation nor any peculiar regimen; they derange none of the functions, which on the contrary, they tend to regulate.

When we remember that the question for the gouty is, to be no longer confined to his bed of suffering a prey to the agonies of the gout, like Prometheus to the gnawing of the vulture; when we reflect that his wish is no longer to drag about the weight which clogs his steps; in fine, when we consider that the object is to destroy an enemy who watches each movement of

this victim, that he may strike him the more surely, can a few years of attention so easy and so little costly be regretted?

Of the maximum of pills.

The maximum of pills can be only approximatively stated : four or five in the morning and as many in the evening, have been, in the majority of cases sufficient; but, it might perhaps be well to increase for a very short time, the number, afterwards diminishing it; each person judging by the rapidity or retardation of the improvement.

Evidently, time, must be allowed for the change of constitution, which can not be expected in a day; indeed nothing should be done too quickly.

As a rule, it is better to continue

the medicine a longer time, than to increase the dose too rapidly. Excess even in good, is to be avoided, and it would be a serious error to imagine that nature may be coerced by pushing the doses. By attempting to succeed too quickly, we fail altogether.

Those timid persons also, who fear taking too many pills, must be reassured.

The substances of which they are composed cannot possibly be injurious and twice or three times the quantity ordered might be taken innocuously.

By persevering a longer or shorter time according to the severity of the case, the articulations will gradually recover their suppleness, and the nodes will be seen to soften and diminish insensibly.

This last is an infallible test of an anti-gout remedy.

To this unerring proof, we can, by the aid of chemistry, add another, equally palpable and material.

The articular concretions are composed principally of uric acid, urates of ammonia, of soda, and of phosphate of lime. These are precisely the salts which we found in the various excreta, especially in the urine; so that chemical reagents which showed scarcely a trace of these before taking the liquid or pills, will demonstrate an enormous proportion after their use.

Thus, the concretions, the principal component of which, analysis has shown, can be again reproduced, and will thus furnish the most convincing proof any medicine can offer: this then is the most rational plan of proceeding, and enabled us to answer truly the question of a certain general who asked us « what became of the gout? »

we told him that « it followed the course of the evacuations » since, chemical analysis, as has been said, finds in them all the principles which produce it.

There is then no possibility of its being thrown inwards; and far from being dangerous, this method is beneficial to the health, by preventing the predominance and persistence of certain salts injurious to the whole system.

**Can a limit be fixed to the use
of the pills?**

It is evident that an exact limit cannot possibly be assigned as we can only build on vague hypotheses.

Certain cases have been considerably relieved in 2 or 3 months, and with only a few pills. Others have required a

much longer time and more pills ; all depends on a variety of considerations impossible to be known beforehand : such as the kind , degree , or duration of the gout , whether it be hereditary ; the constitution and peculiarities of the patient , etc. , must be kept in view.

All that can be expected is such prompt amelioration even in acute cases , as will remove all doubt of the final result : and as we have already said , the progress in a few months will be such , that the patient will be himself in a condition to judge.

It is not necessary to take the pills indefinitely ; as soon as the benefit has become established , they may be omitted ; the course of the disease must be followed.

The treatment may be interrupted for a few days without inconvenience. At the same time it should not be for-

gotten, that means are necessary to an end : and if a cure be desired, the rules prescribed for attaining it are to be observed.

In a word, patience and energy are required in proportion to the obstinacy of the malady, which must be watched and attacked till entirely subdued.

Action of the pills.

The pills, which as we have seen, materially modify the gouty diathesis, produce no immediately appreciable effect.

They are perfectly innocuous. If this should be made an argument against their efficacy, I could instance (among others) the pills of hydro-ferrocyanate of potash and urea, often as powerful as quinine in arresting fever and

which do not in the least derange the system. Besides, experience is the only true test.

The pills I mentioned resemble mine in the fact that 30 or 40 may be taken in a day without danger.

The whole secret consists in the preparation, choice, and applicability of the medicines.

On Rheumatisms.

Rheumatism usually so nearly resembles gout, that they have always been considered connected. Therefore the anti-gout treatment is the most effectual.

The same distinction must be drawn here as between acute and chronic gout.

Should the case be one of excessive

pain, with swelling of the joints, and the skin hot, dry and tight, in short with all the symptoms of acute or subacute rheumatism, resort must be had to the liquid. The same rules and doses must be observed as have already been directed in acute gout, page 31.

In a case of chronic rheumatism, or if it be wished to prevent the return of an acute attack, the pills must be used as directed in chronic gout.

I would only add that if from month to month, the improvement appear too gradual, it would be well to take a few small teaspoonsful of the liquid to assist the action of the pills by a slight purge.

We could, as easily as others, have filled a volume with long reports of facts. We could also have described minutely all the symptoms of gout whether acute, chronic, irregular or

any other form of it. But all these details would have been useless to the gouty, who demand a description, rather of a method of cure, than of sufferings which they know only too well.

Besides an experienced and sagacious medical man should be consulted in any embarrassing case.

Diet of the gouty.

It would be impossible to prescribe a regimen which would be suitable for all indiscriminately : it must be suited to the constitution of each one. As a general rule, brown meats, alcoholic liquors, and strong wines should be used with great moderation, indeed any rich food which in a small volume supplies to the body an excess of nutriment.

At the same time, the regulation of the mind is not less important than that of the body.

Violent emotions are the most prolific source of disease, particularly of the gout. Thus I know a gouty patient, who is certain to have a fit of gout after putting himself in a passion. Other excesses are punished in a similar way, and if the chastisement be less prompt, it is rarely altogether evaded; so is it, that a good treatise on morals would serve equally as a treatise on health.

Not only bad passions must be considered injurious, but any emotion carried too far, as excitement, melancholy, excessive thought, too much study: Sydenham, when he wrote his famous « Treatise on the gout, » predicted that it would cost him an unusually severe attack and the prediction was verified.

To sum up, moderation in every

thing, should be to the gouty a law the neglect of which would expose them to more frequent and more severe attacks.

In all their illnesses, they must not lose sight of the original gouty taint. An affection apparently incurable, and which seems at first, altogether distinct from gout, is frequently nothing more than *retrocedent or misplaced gout*, and will consequently only disappear under the action of anti-gout remedies.

RÉSUMÉ

Advantages of the liquid.

1. The attacks need no longer be dreaded, since they can be warded off,
-

so soon as the first symptoms threaten. Thus, confinement to bed is avoided, and business may be attended.

2. This liquid, employed at any period of the attack, or however violent the pain, soon soothes and puts every thing in order.

3. Its use at definite periods will prevent the accumulation of the salts, and consequently the occurrence of attacks, as the safety-valve prevents an explosion of steam.

4. The general health will be gradually improved, as it becomes disembarassed of an excess of matters which produce not only gout, but gravel, rheumatism, and those thousand protean maladies which unceasingly and unpitifully wear out the poor sufferer.

5. It may be used in all constitutions however nervous or worn they may be, as it is equally effectual in an enema.

Its use is, I believe, never contra-indicated. But if the stomach be extraordinarily sensitive, habitually subject to vomiting or acutely inflamed, it would be prudent to administer the medicine in very small doses or, better still, in an enema.

Advantages of the pills.

At the termination of an attack, common sense tells us to efface the traces of past and to guard against future ones : the pills are intended to effect both indications.

Therefore, no objection, however specious, can be raised, as no immediately perceptible effect is to be feared.

Neither the digestive, sanguineous nor nervous systems are at all disordered : its action is slowly but surely to purify from the gout, and the result

is only perceived by the adjournment of the attacks, which become milder and milder till at last they disappear.

At the same time, motion will be freer and easier, and the knots, those hitherto ineffaceable mementos, will soften without ulcerating and gradually be removed.

Thus the gout will no longer terrify by its anomalies and metastases, and its victims will be relieved from their fearful sufferings.

In therapeutics, facts only can be trusted.

I suppose, I need scarcely say this is not a mere hypothesis. Theories, however brilliant they may appear, are so often and so cruelly disproved by realities, that in therapeutics especially we can only rely on facts. Conjectures, we

know are never wanting , precepts have been always abundant, but good and practical facts have ever been as rare as they are important. Of what advantage are reasons , more or less specious? A medicine which cures , unites, in my opinion , the most perfect conditions , and needs no demonstrations , which may indeed be very learned, but are certainly very uninteresting.

We have, then, succeeded, after 25 years of experiments, in attaining the object of our researches , and we are happy to end our exertions, and see our sacrifices of all kinds crowned with a legitimate success.

**Precautions for securing uniformity
in the composition of the liquid
and pills.**

The liquid and pills for curing and

preventing the gout are composed according to a certain formula.

In order to preserve their composition pure and intact, we have been obliged for the sake of the gouty, to take the greatest precautions.

In truth, scarcely has a receipt been published, when every one begins to modify and alter it in a thousand ways. One substance is omitted on account of its price, another is added to please oneself, the process is reduced in order to save time or money; every one offers advice, till at last no one understands any thing about it.

All the famous medicines handed down to us from the ancients and approved by long experience, have now lost their credit, because none have retained their original purity.

We were therefore obliged, in the interest of the public, to make choice

of a chemist of honour and ability, and initiate him into our formulas and manipulations, so that we might be certain they would be scrupulously executed.

In applying to the honourable persons named on page 104, patients are sure to find our medicines well prepared and always the same.

We had also another object in view : viz. that the same chemists, by frequently preparing the same substances, would become more expert, and thus the medicines would be always alike ; a result on which, unfortunately, we could not depend, if they were prepared by anybody.

It is well known that medicines which should always be exactly alike differ according to the various manipulators who prepare them.

Although this medicine, taken as

we have directed, is not in the least dangerous, yet we advise the gouty, not to take it without the consent of their medical attendant, who will watch and modify its effect as circumstances may require.

Idea of submitting it to the Academy.

At the commencement of our undertaking, before we had published any treatise and when we could have addressed the Academy, we seriously entertained the idea of submitting our formula to the control of that illustrious society : many members, however, represented to us, the inutility of so doing, and that the Academy would require so many facts, that however numerous and authentic ours might be, they would be insufficient, and that when it was question

of disease requiring years of study, a commission, however zealous, could not be expected to give up all its time to it, to the exclusion of every other object.

Besides, if any doubt had remained, one striking fact, which had just occurred in the Academy, would have dispelled them.

Doctor Baud, after infinite researches and fatigues such as only inventors can appreciate, had proposed a new febrifuge in place of quinine. He adduced 160 cases observed by himself and friends. The reporter of the commission appointed by the Academy itself, had collected 30 others confirmative of the same. There seemed left only to congratulate the author on his discovery, the importance of which in every way was incalculable; but no such thing.

The minister, in the name of the Academy, replied that so serious a question could only be decided by long and repeated experiments.

And yet it only concerned intermittent fever. A few months would have been ample to study and decide the question for ever. If such was the result in such a case (and academicians will remember many similar), what could I anticipate for a problem whose solution required years of experiments. I was therefore obliged, to my great regret, to renounce the sanction of the learned society, to appeal to the public, and to call on all men of study to assist in finally resolving one of the greatest of therapeutical problems. We invite the whole medical profession to this scientific and humane enquiry, and we implore the impartial verdict of this solemn jury.

As to the gouty, their assistance is secured, since it is their interests which are concerned. We have no need to stimulate their zeal : those who have suffered will compassionate the sufferings of others ; the past guarantees the future ; all will hasten to send us their conscientious remarks, that science may be enriched by numberless and incontrovertible proofs.

Objections of some gouty people.

Some patients seem to cling to their gout, as the miser does to his treasure. They regard the gout as a species of life insurance, and that while they retain it, they are safe from any other maladies : as if the gout was not a constant source of danger and the most terrible of all scourges. Do not thousands of cases

prove that gout is the source of some of the fatal diseases to which humanity is subject. The imagination is distracted by the variety, gravity, and above all, by the sudden visitation of the maladies of which gout is the parent ; it is the sword of Damocles always threatening.

For example , all authors describe aneurism of the heart and cerebral congestion as being frequent in gouty subjects.

What is the best treatment to meet these cases ?

A physician unbiassed, unprejudiced, a man of science and conscience , will unhesitatingly answer : « Derivative treatment.» Well ; intestinal derivation is undoubtedly the most efficacious, and the anti-gout liquid , by gently purging, can only prevent a congestion of the heart or brain rather than pro-

to make it, as has been asserted either through error or illwill.

Indeed, from, the time of Hippocrates it has been constantly repeated « purger, c'est saigner » (to purge is to bleed) (1).

Any further explanation would be useless : there are truths which require no defence, they speak for themselves.

Other gouty people dread a retrocession, a metastasis, a retrogression to a more important organ. These fears are natural and merit an explanation.

When gout was considered as an unknown, mysterious guest, whose visit chilled with terror, but whose caprices were to be respected under penalty of drawing down its vengeance; when victims were immolated to appease its anger as in the time of Lucien

(1) Mèrat et de Lens, *Dictionnaire de matière médicale*

(1). Then the gouty in his ignorance and fetishism, might well bow to the pain, as the slave under the stripes of a barbarous master : he might be partly excused for presenting himself a sacrifice to the gout as the superstitious nations offered sacrifices to evil genii to propitiate them. But if science be any thing more than a vain word, if chemistry has thrown light on hitherto obscure questions ; if in short, gout be and can be only a concentration in the system of salts which can find no outlet as is proved visibly by the saline concretions, which follow the course of gout and teach us its nature and origin, it is evident that the one thing necessary was to find a medicine which would render these salts soluble and expel them from the body.

This is precisely the result which the curative and preventive liquid and pills never fail to produce.

Henceforth, it is clear that this treatment ought to banish not only all ideas of retrocession, but should also inspire the most perfect confidence. In effect, by expelling the superabundant saline matters (which accumulated in the various organs, produce mischief and even death), equilibrium is restored, the articulations, once more free, become supple : the various functions of the body are performed without difficulty, and life moves freely.

It cannot be too often repeated, these are no hypotheses, no vain theories, but palpable truths, material, physical facts, confirmed over and over again by repeated experiments.

If any should still doubt, we advise them to submit the produce of their

secretions to a chemist, when their doubts will quickly be removed.

Our motive for making this appeal, is to place conviction on a firm basis; so that the gouty who have, through doubt, hitherto abstained, should at last think of protecting themselves from future ills: and that those, who have unreflectingly, employed medicines whose mode of action is unknown, should reflect on the dangers of such a course.

Objections of some medical men.

But, it is said, some medical men think that the subject of gout is exhausted.

That doctors, should differ on this question, as on so many others, is not

surprising. The liberal professions do not always set an example of brotherly concord.

Some object to it, because, incapable themselves of relieving gout, they imagine their own knowledge to be the natural limit of science; they consequently offer gratis a certificate of general incapacity. This may be liberal, but it is not just.

Others fancy that they ought to have discovered the remedy if any existed, without taking either the time or trouble to search: that is to say they wished to reap without having sown; that would be very convenient, but by no means honest.

To honourable and learned objectors, I would say: Why, on the instant, set yourselves against all anti-gout remedies? Do you look on the gout as a kind of *noli me tangere*, a sacred ill;

a curse of God which it would be impious to cure.

If such is not your idea, why interdict laborious researches and throw discredit in advance on their results. Who is so high as to be considered the sole arbiter of science ?

Doubtless there are abuses to be rooted out and quackery to be unmasked ; and it is undoubtedly right and a duty to adopt a strict criterion, but must every novelty therefore be decried ?

If gout could cure itself ; if a termination to sufferings again and again renewed, could be anticipated, we might possibly understand somewhat of the do-nothing system ; but when daily experience shows that gout left to itself, is unforgiving ; that, if it occasionally appears to slumber, its awakening, is sooner or later terrible, we shall

understand the responsibility of those who advise their patients to wait patiently, and the despair which, too late, will gnaw their unhappy victims.

A distressing example has recently occurred. Doctor M. S., by his talents and industry, had gained a high standing in the profession : he had been appointed to a professorship at the Paris School of Medicine, and made a member of the imperial Academy of Medicine. A brilliant future opened before him, when in the midst of his career, he had an attack of gout, which left the fingers so disjoined and dislocated as to resemble, as he said, the claws of a roast fowl.

Imagine from this the injury to other organs. At length, after dragging on 15 years of pain, his sufferings have terminated. Such are the results of the opposite system, to such a con-

clusion does the practise of our antagonists lead, whose therapeutics consist only of a meditation *on death*, as the celebrated Asclepiades so justly observed.

A physician opposed to any anti-gout treatment to whom this example was related, replied : « At all events he died according to rule. » Molière could have said nothing better. The gouty must decide whether they wish to suffer and die for the glorification of some wretched disciple of Esculapius.

Certainly these objections require no great amount of ingenuity ; they belong to all ages and are constantly quoted against any new remedy : the same string is constantly struck. Thus, Bark had been well known in Europe more than 50 years, and had consequently cured thousands, [when Guy-Patin, the first physician in France,

professor in the royal College of Paris, wrote to his friend Falconnet : « Bark does not cure intermittent fever, we have therefore abandoned it. *Jacet ignotus sine nomine pulvis.* »

Some medical men spoke against Bark from a motive which would never have been suspected if the famous Morton had not avowed it in his works : Bark cured too quickly and did not allow them to enrich themselves at the expence of their patients (1).

Some other sharp practitioners, frightened their patients by prognosticating that if they did not die within the year, they would at the 7 years period (2).

And, as is ever the case, without looking to facts, they ascribed to the

(1) Morton, *De morbis universalibus acutis*, cap. 8, p. 122. — 1692.

(2) Chifflet, *L'u'vis febrifugus*; Plempius, *Peruviani corticis defensor repulsus*.

treatment, every accident, ordinary or extraordinary, which had occurred to the patient who had tried it.

It has thus been found to give rise to convulsions, lock jaw, pneumonia, insanity, apoplexy, asthma, etc., etc. And some have been simple enough to believe this : So true is it,

One error brings another in its train.

If I were to speak of vaccination, volumes might be filled with the absurdities which have been said about it; did a child fall off a tree, vaccination was in fault. So, let a gouty person gorge himself with wine and truffled turkey, if inflammation of the stomach followed, not intemperance, but the anti-gout treatment, if it had been tried, would be blamed. Whatever he might do, he might attend or not to the directions,

he might do any thing he pleased, suffer from any disease, seek advice only at the last moment, and then follow his own caprices, no matter, the anti-gout treatment is responsible for every thing. They do not stop to enquire if this treatment, good as it is, depends like any other in the observance of certain rules, certain conditions; no, no, miracles are required for ever; to such an extent do a certain class of people carry the idea, that in arguing on medicine, logic and common sense are simply useless luxuries.

Another favourite argument is, gout in the feet must be caressed; that is to say, it must be received like a young timid actress who wants encouragement. What shame! what bitter mockery at suffering humanity! Do they not know that gout is visible outwardly only, when the inner system is in-

fested, impregnated, and saturated with it. It is nothing but an excess of gout which constitutes an attack. So that it is a thing unheard, that one attack should not be followed by others. They are flashes of lightning which from time to time pierce clouds overcharged with electricity. Would it not then be very wise to adopt a kind of lightning conductor, attracting the gouty fluid out of the body without shock or commotion ?

If a person ever lived who was competent to advise from an intimate knowledge of facts, it was certainly Sydenham, so justly styled the English Hippocrates : violently attacked by gout, he sought undespairingly a remedy, and felt convinced that one day it would be found, and that all conscientious efforts for its discovery should be nobly seconded.

The time has surely arrived to unite all available medical efforts, to destroy the gout, this despair of medicine and scourge of humanity.

**Rapid glance at the consequences
of neglected gout and rheuma-
tism.**

Common sense soon showed that these atrocious pains, to borrow a phrase from Sydenham, would be felt throughout the whole system.

And, indeed, the local mischief, though serious is but an accessory. The local phenomena: thickening, swelling, erosion of the synovial membranes; ulceration, softening and destruction of the articular cartilages; deformity and disjuncture of the phalanges; denuda-

tion, caries and often ankylosis of the osseous extremities, are far from constituting the principal elements of the disease. It is the heart, with its membranes, which receives the most direct and fatal injury. There is no mistake on the point, it is based on anatomy. In gout and rheumatism, inflammation attacks the *sero-fibrous tissues* of the articulations, and by analogy of texture, the *sero-fibrous tissues* of the heart. So that the coincidence or coexistence of this double lesion has been laid down as *the rule, the law*, by Professor Bouillaud, an acute observer, whose diagnosis is of almost mathematical certainty. And what is most to be lamented, is, says M. Bouillaud : « Internal rheumatism (of the heart) often predominates over the external (of the joints) absorbing it, as it were, and continuing its course and its ravages long

after all traces of it have disappeared externally (1). »

These ravages are all the more dreadful, that they are developed unconsciously to the patient.

How is this secret course, so strange and incredible, to be explained?

By pure anatomical reason. The heart is deprived of sensitive nerves, consequently *uncomplicated* inflammations of this organ, cause no true pain. One can thus understand naturally, that each successive attack aggravates the mischief, till at last the organic lesion, arrived at a certain point, displays, when too late, its frightful progress.

The destructive agency of articular inflammation, on the centre of the circulation, has thus become a scientific fact. It is, besides, put quite out of the

(1) *Traité clinique du rhumatisme articulaire.*

question by the most eminent professors.

M. Andral, whose remarks have so much just authority, writes « I no longer doubt, the important part which acute articular rheumatism plays in producing organic diseases of the heart. For first, I am satisfied, from careful observation, that a great many people, suffering from various heart diseases had acute rheumatism in the first instance, and it was from that time or soon after, they noticed something wrong about the heart. Again, having examined daily the condition of the heart in many rheumatic patients I was enabled to mark the growth as it were of the heart affection under my ear. In the first stage of the disease there is often neither pain in the præcordium, palpitation nor dyspnæa; later, these two symptoms appear, they

coincide most frequently with a state of hypertrophy of the heart which follows more or less rapidly, endocarditis (1). »

And M. Bouillaud, whose works have thrown such light on cardiac affections, fears not to cry : « Unhappy, thrice unhappy those in whom acute articular rheumatism passes into the chronic stage, not merely on account of the traces left by the articular affection, but before and above all, on account of the internal consequences and complications. Alas ! how many die victims sooner or later, martyrs to those chronic organic lesions of the valves of the heart accompanied with hypertrophy of that organ ! (2) »

(1) Notes et additions au *Traité de l'auscultation médiate* de Laënnec.

(2) *Traité clinique*, etc.

If in the judgement of these princes of science, rheumatic articular inflammation is accompanied by such disorders, what must be said of the gouty form, whose importance, other things being equal, is so much greater? Should not the external nodosities which strike the eye, bespeak the most serious attention to similar and much more dangerous products in the interior, to those crystallisations and incrustations on the valves of the heart whose action may so soon be impeded?

“ *La France médicale*,” which is conducted with unusual talent, lately printed these words which should be constantly drummed into the ears of every person : « Is disease circumscribed to the organ affected? No one dare maintain the independance of a painful organ, and he would have lost moral sense who should deny that it was the office of the cir-

circulation and nervous system to carry on the evidence of alteration or suffering. »

Oh ! if error and prejudice did not sometimes blind the best of us , would it not appear strange to have to insist on the absolute necessity of curing not only the acute but also and above all the chronic states of these terrible affections !

Indeed , it is less frequently the stiff joints which forbid exercise , than the chronic heart disease , and it is some serious mischief in that organ which destroys the gouty patient who dies as though gradually suffocated.

Thus our treatment fills up a lamentable void. The only aim hitherto has been to lessen the attacks ; unfortunately we all know that after an attack we are not the less gouty or rheumatic. If therefore it is well to cure an attack

which is *the effect*, it is much better to cure the constitutional defect which is *the cause* : for the gouty or rheumatic diathesis is no more cured by the suppression of an attack, than the cancerous is by the extirpation of a gland, or the scrofulous by the dispersion of a swelling. Once more then it is the constitution which must be altered : and this is precisely what has been neglected even by those authors who boasted most of curing the gout. Many do not speak of it at all ; others just mention it as a matter of form, since they only direct the same treatment as in the acute stage but in smaller doses ; evidently perceiving only slight differences in two conditions so dissimilar. And thus the gouty fall from bad to worse without any certain rest or relief. Is it not however evident, that a medicine active enough for the acute

stage cannot benefit a constitution which should be changed by a slow and gradual course of action? Our labours have then tended to the discovery of a method of treatment applicable to the chronic condition, and to separate it most carefully from that intended for the acute stage. The latter extinguishes the fire, the former prevents the conflagration and repairs its ravages. Our idea proved so correct, that for the last 30 years each experiment has been a new triumph. And what is very remarkable and no less encouraging is that this end has been attained without *any disturbing agents*: no function has been deranged; on the contrary, each has been performed more regularly. The heart and the articulations recover their liberty of movement. A wisely progressive amelioration has shown itself; but prudence

and sound sense demand a longer or shorter period according to the degree of injury, to transform, without compromising it, an entire constitution.

RÉSUMÉ.

In the acute stage :

The liquid is the safest, most effectual, and most infallible of all known medicines.

In the chronic stage :

The pills form the only known method, which, by purifying the system, delay, weaken and gradually arrest the attacks.

The pills constitute the foundation, the base, the principle of a really anti-gout medicine. They are to the liquid what the whole is to a part, or cause to effect.

Prescriptions for gout.

Our medicine has never been a secret remedy in the bad acceptance of the term, since our chemist has always been happy to inform any one desirous of knowing it. But we regret we have hitherto, been unable to publish the formula in detail, because the preparation was not all at once as perfect as it now is. Long trials had to be made. We were anxious that our medicines should avoid the fate of many others, quickly disclosed and as soon forgotten. Therefore we thought it prudent to wait till time and facts had supplied unmistakeable proofs.

The first experiments were directed to acute gout.

I found that I obtained success some-

times from preparations of quinine and sometimes from purgatives, and I determined to unite these agents. All preparations of Bark not having produced equally good results, I was obliged to make many trials and experiments before I could obtain what I desired. It was the same with the purgatives. For example, scammony produced some very good cures, so also did bryony : not to mention veratria the advantages and disadvantages of which are well known . at last a new preparation of colocynth, which I shall call *colocynthine* seemed to answer every purpose, and the anti-gout liquid is simply a mixture of *prepared kino-colocynthine*.

These two products are prepared thus.

Take : best yellow Bark : best red bark : powder and mix , digest them in alcohol in a warm place for some

time; strain and repeat the process three times; press the residue, mix all the liquors, filter and distill off the spirit; treat the residue with very dilute sulphuric acid and filter; add a slight excess of lime, treat with boiling alcohol, filter and evaporate in a water bath to the consistence of syrup: the product will be the *new preparation of cinchona*.

To obtain the *new colocynthine*,

Take: dried colocynth; powder, macerate in warm water and express; filter and evaporate to a soft extract: add an excess of slaked lime in fine powder and digest in alcohol; filter and distil: evaporate, till of the consistence of a syrup.

To make the anti-gout liquid, take:

Generous [spanish wine. . . .	1600
Alcohol.	200

Aromatic distilled water. . . .	160
New colocynthine.	10
New preparation of cinchona..	20
Colouring matter..	q. s.

Mix carefully. This must be filtered from time to time, remove the successive deposits which form, until it becomes perfectly clear; this requires some time which is also necessary for the complete maturation of the liquid which is something like new wine the qualities of which are only developed by rest.

We discovered this accidentally. A quantity which had been set aside and forgotten for 2 years produced most unexpected results.

By this mixture, this new process, this insensible and prolonged fermentation the bitter, drastic principle of the colocynth becomes considerably modified.

Formula for the anti-gout pills.

Take : flower and calyx of alkékenge (*physalis alkekengi*) and the berry separated from their seeds. The buds and berries must be gathered before they are ripe, as, like all fruits, their properties are then totally changed. They must be carefully dried and finely powdered. An equivalent weight of water is to be added to these powders so as to form a soft paste; then add a little slaked lime in fine powder, and treat several times with boiling alcohol: filter and distill; the remainder contains the *alkekengine*.

To this add an equal proportion of a limpid, transparent colourless solution of silicate of soda of the density of 60°.

This mixture is brought into pilular consistence by means of any stoma-chic vegetable powder, chamædrys for instance.

Such is the medicine which in chronic gout and rheumatism has produced such unexpected results.

Now that facts have spoken for us, we could easily advance some very fine theories to explain them. But we think that a remedy which cures, best justifies itself. It would be very tedious if we were to relate our numberless and various trials, but we ought to warn against any alteration in our formulæ.

It would be a great mistake to fancy that in altering the preparation of a substance, its action was preserved unchanged. Thus the silicate we employ acts very differently from the same substance in crystals. It is the same with

the simplest bodies, iced water checks, warm water produces vomiting. It is also well known that a mixture of two substances may so completely change the properties of each, that they can be no longer recognised. In common table salt, for example, how could any person unacquainted with chemistry suspect the presence of two poisons. The character of the mixture may also be changed by varying the doses; thus diminish the oxygen in the air we breathe, and the nitrogen will produce suffocation.

It is then important not to introduce unnecessary innovations : the slightest alteration might be followed by serious results.

Our medicines having been published, honest and conscientious practitioners can no longer be deterred by their honourable scruples.

We shall be happy, for the sake of science and the public, to receive any information, and we beg those who have already furnished us with any to receive our most sincere thanks.

DOCTOR LAVILLE,

79, rue du Bac, à Paris.

As the liquid and pills require a great deal of time and trouble, to prepare them properly, we have been obliged in self-defence to select a well known

chemist whose honour and interest are engaged to neglect nothing.

The public may, with entire confidence, apply :

In LONDON, at **F. NEWBERRY AND SONS**, 45, ST-PAUL'S CHURCH YARD.

Whose medicine stamp will appear on each genuine bottle.

In PARIS, at PHARMACIE **GÉRAL**, 14, RUE DE LA PAIX.

Where they can obtain this little Treatise, so that every body may know our method before giving it a trial.

DR. LAVILLE'S GOUT LIQUOR - - 11/

Do. GOUT PILLS - - - 11/

Both in Bottles.

F. NEWBERY *and* SONS.

45, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD,

LONDON.

2nd West-York light Infantry.

Gosport, Hants', Feb. 4th 1858.

My dear Dr Laville,

I fear that by this time you will begin to think that I have forgotten to write to you an account of my state of health, and to send you the translation of your invaluable book, according to my promise, when I was in Paris, last July. Such, I can assure you, is not the case.

In my first letter to you, before we even met, I told you that, if you were able to give me any relief, I should consider you my greatest benefactor. I now look upon you as such, and if I can in any way, at any time, be of service to you, it will give me the greatest pleasure and satisfaction. I have gradually recovered from the time I visited you in July last. At first I was obliged to take the liquid every week or ten days. After a short period, I found that it was not required more than once a month, and even then in much smaller quantities : one teaspoonful being generally sufficient to turn off an attack of gout.

I have now seldom occasion to take the liquid. I have sometimes a slight feeling of gout ; but one teaspoonful at night removes all traces of it, before the next morning. The swellings or nodes have totally disappeared from my hands and feet ; and I can now walk with ease and comfort. I continue and shall do so, to take the pills. I take 10 of them in the day, 5 at breakfast,

and the same number at dinner. The pills
cause me not the least inconvenience, and
I intend to continue their use for at least a
year after I have had any sensation of gout.

I have tried your remedy on various sub-
jects, both in gout and rheumatism with
invariable success, and have got many of
my friends to adopt your treatment; all of
whom have received immediate relief:

Allow me again to thank you for the
inestimable benefit which I have received
from your advice and to subscribe myself.

Your most grateful patient and
sincere friend,

RICHARD STERNE CARROLL,
Major 2nd West-York light infantry.

Farnley-Hall, Otley, Yorkshire
July 6. 1860.

Mon cher Docteur,

Vous verrez par le témoignage que j'ai eu tant de plaisir d'écrire que je ne suis pas un ingrat. Je me souviens, et je me souviendrai toujours, que vous m'avez sauvé la vie, ou que du moins vous l'avez rendue très-confortable.

J'espère que ce que j'ai écrit aidera à faire circuler vos remèdes parmi mes compatriotes. Je n'ai rien dit que la vérité; mais même la vérité est souvent plus lente à se répandre que l'erreur.

Néanmoins, en ce cas, *spero meliora* !

Farnly-Hall, Otley, Yorkshire
July 6. 1860.

It gives me the greatest possible pleasure to be offered the opportunity of becoming instrumental to the diffusion among

my countrymen of a knowledge of the extraordinary (I might almost say, magical) effects upon gout and rheumatism (but especially upon gout) of the medicines and use of them invented and recommended by doctor Laville of Paris, with whom most fortunately for myself I became acquainted seven years ago, and whose remedies for gout I have since strictly adhered to and with the same invariably satisfactory results up to the moment of my writing this testimonial to their efficiency : that of *the pills* in preventing a frequency of attack ; that of *the liquor* in preventing, if duly taken (when the first premonitory symptoms of an attack appear) the gout coming to its explosive point. Or should that stage have arrived, of relieving from all pain in a few hours and removing all necessity of bed or couch.

But, as it may be thought, that I had perhaps but a little experience before making Doctor Laville's acquaintance, of really painful and disabling gout, I must

beg to say, that I had been, tho' seven years ago, only fifty six years old, a martyr for twenty years to a frequency every year of attacks of gout of the most painful and obstinate character and which frequently confined me to bed for six weeks at a time. And that since I have used doctor Laville's remedies I have so seldom had an attack and then of so painless and trivial a kind, and my general health has at the same time so materially improved, that I can fearlessly recommend these medicines as the safest, most salutary and satisfactory remedies for gout that can be used. Hoping that all who are afflicted with this torment will take mine and doctor Laville's advice,

I remain, dear sir, your most grateful
and very affectionate,

F. H. FAWKES.

Paris, 46, rue Montaigne,
July 12, 1860.

Mon cher Docteur,

C'est avec le plus grand plaisir que je vous envoie ce témoignage, œuvre de prédilection. Puisse-t-il concourir à dessiller les yeux des pauvres aveugles qui jusqu'ici n'ont pas su où s'adresser pour trouver la guérison de leurs maux.

Avec les sentiments affectueux de toute la famille, croyez à l'amitié sincère de votre très-dévoué.

R. C. DALLAS.

Paris, 46, rue Montaigne.
July 12, 1860.

Dear doctor Laville,

It has been represented to me that my testimony in favor of your mode of treating gouty and rheumatic affections may induce persons afflicted with such disorders to

make a trial of the medicines, remedial and preventive, which, in my own case, have produced the most beneficial results. Should any sufferer from these painful maladies do me the favor of writing to me on the subject, I shall have great pleasure in answering his enquiries, and in explaining, as far as I am able, the system which, in conformity with the instructions in your valuable Treatise, I have effectually pursued.

At present, I will briefly state that, from an early period of life I have been afflicted by rheumatic-gout of a severe and painful character. I have been treated for this malady by some of the most eminent physicians of our country; but their prescriptions failed to give me other than temporary relief. The frequent recurrence of attacks, and the enfeebling nature of the remedies employed to subdue them, caused me to despair of obtaining any permanent alleviation of the complaint. Two years ago, after a winter passed in extreme and con-

stant suffering, I had the advantage of consulting you, and, from that period, I have never been once confined to my bed, while I have invariably succeeded in arresting, in their inception, attacks which, under the former system, would probably have equalled, in intensity and duration, their predecessors. I can therefore have no hesitation in recommending to all who may be similarly situated, your admirable cure; and I have little doubt that, by judicious perseverance in the course indicated by your Treatise, the constitution of persons so affected may be gradually changed and renovated.

My present object being simply to state with precision a medical fact, of which I have personal cognizance, I forbear from enlarging, as I well might, on the unsurpassed kindness, sympathy, and attention, which your patients must ever hold in grateful remembrance. I should be wanting however, in every proper sentiment, were I to abstain from expressing my anxious de-

sire that your remedies may be generally known, and that your name may receive the honorable illustration so justly due to the successful exercise of great professional abilities.

Believe me to remain, with constant regard,

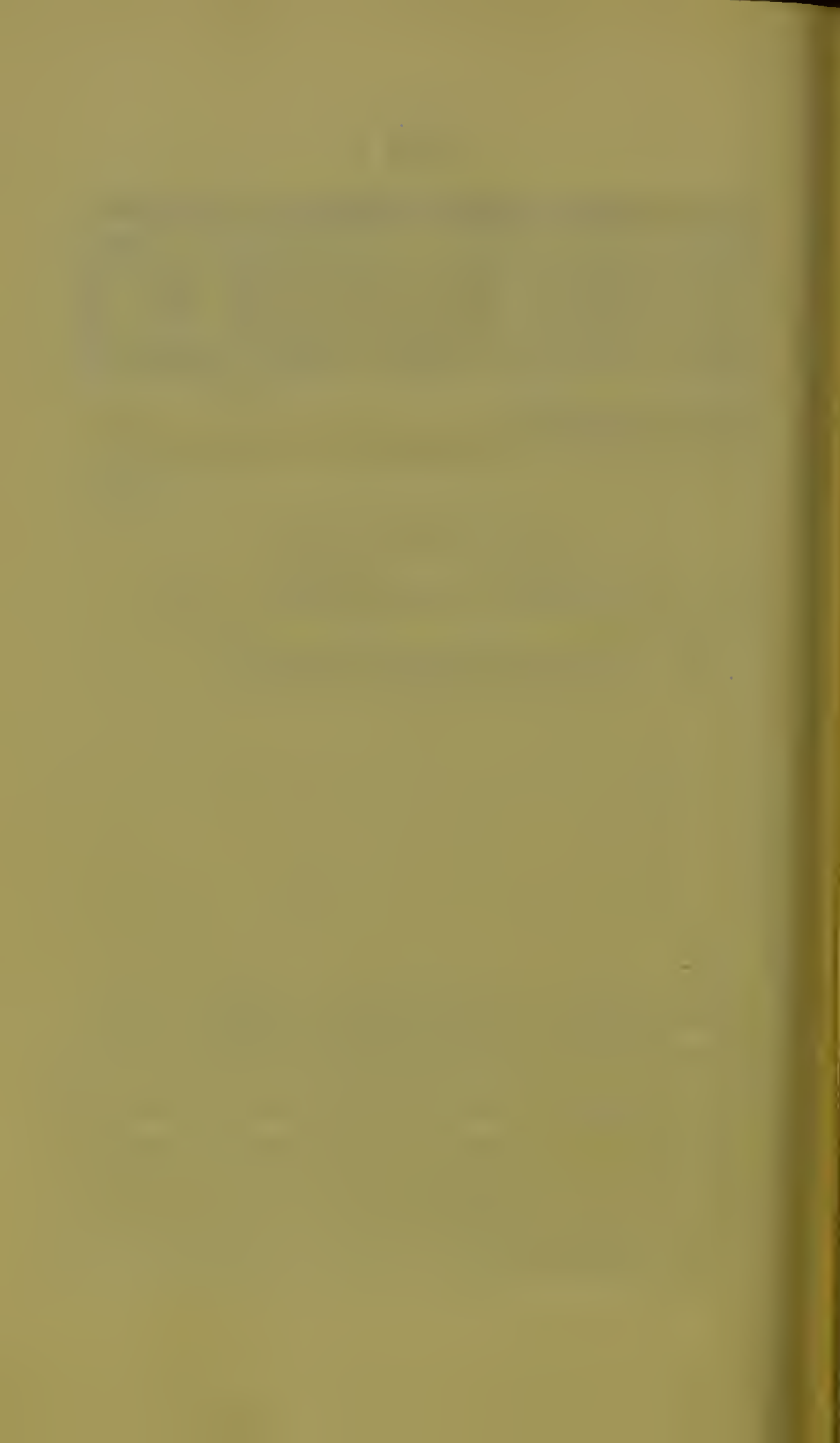
Dear doctor Laville,

Your faithful and obliged servant,

ROBERT-CHARLES DALLAS, Bart.

Our medical treatment having obtained general approbation in France for many years past, we might have added numberless laudatory attestations to this short Treatise ; but, we are of opinion that in an English edi-

tion, only English witnesses suit best :
and, even of these, we have chosen few
from among many, judging that in
this, as in all other cases, *quality* is
above *quantity*.



ANALYSIS

OF OUR ANTI-GOUT MEDICINES

BY M. OSSIAN HENRY,

Member of the imperial Academy of medicine,
professor of chemistry, etc.

« At the request of certain medical men, who
« have successfully employed the curative liquid
« for gout and rheumatism and the pills, preventive
« of the same affections, Dr Laville, the author of
« these preparations thought it would be useful, to
« publish the analysis of these two medicines. This
« task he confided to me, and I append a certificate
« of the results.

« I, the undersigned Stephen Ossian Henry, mem-
« ber of the imperial Academy of medicine, and
« chief analyst, hereby certify that I have analysed
« two medicines confided to me for that purpose

“ by Dr Laville, and called : 1^o Curative liquid for
“ gout and rheumatism, and; 2^o Preventive pills for
“ the same affections, and that the result enabled
“ me to believe they were composed as w^l. Ibe said
“ farther on.

Curative liquid for gout and rheumatism.

“ The composition I received under this name
“ was a clear liquid of a ruby colour, smelling of
“ spanish wine and having a taste at first vinous
“ and agreeably spirituous, soon followed by a de-
“ cided bitterness.

“ This liquid reddened turmeric mixed with
“ water, it retained its transparency; on the addi-
“ tion of potash or ammonia a beautiful violet
“ colour was produced; and rendered neutral by
“ tannin, it gave in a few moments a white flocculent
“ precipitate and chloride of barium showed slight
“ traces of a sulphate.

“ Carefully evaporated, a reddish brown syrup
“ was produced, which, when calcined, left a brittle
“ charcoal containing carbonate and phosphate of
“ lime. These salts appeared to be derived from
“ the wine which forms the vehicle of the medi-
“ cine, and to be foreign to its real composition.

“ Without going into detail of the various opera-

“ tions on the curative liquid or its products, I
“ will mention the principal ones.

“ A quantity of the liquid was shaken up for some
“ time with fresh hydrate of lead. The colour
“ changed to a light amber, and an insoluble violet-
“ coloured thick precipitate was thrown down owing
“ to the combination of the oxide of lead with the
“ colouring matter; the clear liquid was exposed
“ for a few moments to a current of hydrosulfuric
“ acid which removed the traces of lead dissolved in
“ the above reaction: this was filtered, some alcohol
“ distilled off, and evaporated in a water bath to
“ the consistence of syrup. By applying proper test
“ we easily recognised the presence of *quinine and*
“ *even of cinchonine*; but there were no traces
“ either of *veratrine or colchicine*, notwithstan-
“ ding that every precaution was taken to dis-
“ cover these alkaloids.

“ Besides the febrifuge and tonic principles of
“ cinchona, we obtained in good quantity, an im-
“ portant bitter extract, which as compared with
“ others made expressly, most resembled the active
“ principles of colocynth.

“ The anti-gout liquid of D^r Laville appears from
“ its analysis to be composed of febrifuge, antipe-
“ riodic, diuretic and purgative principles.

“ It is a happy combination to attain the end
“ proposed. we consider its composition to be as
“ under.

" Generous spanish wine.	800
" Alcohol.. . . .	100
" Water.	85
" Active principle of colocynth. . . .	2,5
" Quinine and cinchonine.. . . .	5
" Colouring matter.	3
" Unimportant salts of lime, etc. . . .	4,5
	<hr/>
	1000.0

" *Signed* : O. HENRY

" Paris, Nov. 12 1858. "

Signed to legalize the above signature

ANCELLE, *Adj. mayor of the*
2nd division.

Paris, Jan. 24 1859.

PILLS FOR PREVENTING

GOUT AND RHEUMATISM

ACCORDING

To the prescription of Dr LAVILLE.

“ These pills were silvered and were about the size
“ of a pea, and weighed 4 grains; on removing the
“ silver, they appeared of a greenish black colour in-
“ ternally, and had an aromatic burnt smell; their
“ taste at first sufficiently agreeable, soon passed in-
“ to a decided bitterness unlike however that of qui-
“ nine, nux vomica or other alkaloïds of that kind;
“ they were easily softened and broken up under
“ the pressure of the fingers.

“ I took 100 pills weighing 7 drachms and calci-
“ ned them in a platina crucible, various aromatic
“ products of combustion were given off and a
“ white substance remained of a globular form: this
“ was powdered and calcined; its weight was one
“ drachm; treated with hydrochloric acid it gave a

“ few traces of *phosphate or carbonate of lime*, and
“ of *oxyde of iron*, but principally of *soda*, forming
“ here *chloride of sodium* whose weight gave that
“ of this base where any traces of potash; what re-
“ mained unacted on was entirely composed of *si-*
“ *lica*.

“ 100 similar pills were treated with hot distilled
“ water and carefully filtered; a greenish vegetable
“ powder containing some slight traces of silica and
“ the pellicles of silver which covered the pills re-
“ mained insoluble.

“ The clear liquid had a greenish brown colour;
“ it was very alkaline; had at first a slightly sweet
“ taste, afterwards bitter, but not disagreeable. The
“ liquid which would not ferment with alcohol was
“ evaporated in a water bath to a tolerably thick con-
“ sistence; it appeared gelatinous and this was more
“ manifest on the addition of a little sulphuric acid;
“ treated with distilled water it gave an insoluble pro-
“ duct recognised as silica; the part dissolved by the
“ water and taken up by the boiling alcohol gave
“ sulphate of soda as the result of the previous re-
“ actions. The liquid was filtered and another extract
“ furnished by evaporation; this was bitter and
“ sweet; dissolved in distilled water and neutralised
“ by a solution of tannin, it gave a yellowish white
“ product, which was carefully collected and mixed
“ with excess of caustic magnesia, dried and treated
“ with boiling alcohol then filtered, and again with

« ether, what was left was neither quinine nor cin-
 « chonine, nor any thing like veratrine or colchi-
 « cine. We had a substance in dirty white scales,
 « bitter and slightly aerid to the taste, seeming to crys-
 « tallise with sulphuric acid and giving with that
 « concentrated acid, a reddish purple colour passing
 « into greenish black. The compound, of a crystal-
 « line appearance, made with dilute sulphuric acid,
 « gave with potash a yellowish white precipitate.

« According to the results of experiments made
 « separately on the *physalis alkekengi*, the product
 « we have mentioned appeared to agree with alke-
 « kengine; but this principle has never yet been
 « produced in sufficient quantity to have furnished
 « any sufficiently characteristic test for analysis.

« The green vegetable powder forming the greater
 « part of what was insoluble in water has no medi-
 « cal importance; it was only intended to form a
 « pilular mass.

« According to the above experiments we consider
 « the preventive pills of Dr Laville to be composed
 « as follows : viz.

« Peeuliar extract of the <i>physalis alkekengi</i> .	9,5
« Silica.	3,
« Soda.	2,6
« Green vegetable powder.	6,5
	<hr/>
	21,6

« This preparation may be regarded as deob-

« struent, softening and purifying. It contains no-
« thing which, in the doses indicated, can injure
« the health.

« *Signed* O. HENRY.

« Paris, Nov. 12 1858. »

Signed to legalize the above signature.

ANCELLE, *Adj. mayor of the*
2nd division.

Paris, Jan. 24 1859.

